

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 176946 TOSEC 080066
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:DROBINSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE 8008

S E C R E T STATE 176946 TOSEC 080066

EXDIS ALSO FOR ASST SECRETARY VEST

FOLLOWING REPEAT STOCKHOLM 2705 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
13 JUL 78

QUOTE S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 2705

EXDIS

DEPT PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE
AND SLUG QTE ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST UNQTE

1. DCM WAS CALLED IN BY ACTING HEAD OF POLITICAL
DIRECTION OF MFA, KAI GROTH, ON VIGGEN DECISION.
ALSO PRESENT WAS MFA OFFICIAL ULF HJERTONSSON
(OF DIVISION FOR NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE).
GROTH PASSED DCM COPY OF A NON-PAPER TO BE DELIVERED
LATER TODAY BY SWEDISH CHARGE TO DAS VINE. NON-PAPER
(TEXT REPEATED AT CONCLUSION) REITERATES GOS
REQUEST THAT SECRETARY VANCE RECEIVE MINISTER OF
COMMERCE BURENSTAM LINDER WHO HAS BEEN EMPOWERED
BY SWEDISH GOVERNMENT TO REPRESENT SWEDISH
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GOVERNMENT ON THIS ISSUE. GROTH OBSERVED THAT
SWEDISH CABINET MINISTER SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO
"AT LEAST 15 MINUTES" REQUIRED WITH SECRETARY.
GROTH SAID MEETING WAS DESIRED SOMETIME BEFORE END
OF JULY WHICH WOULD MEAN LAST WEEK IF HE IS RECEIVED
IN WASHINGTON. HJERTONSSON STATED AFTER MEETING WITH
GROTH THAT LINDER WAS READY TO TRAVEL ANY TIME ANYWHERE

ON VERY SHORT NOTICE.

2. HJERTONSSON ALSO STATED BEFORE MEETING THAT DECISION WAS MADE YESTERDAY AFTER MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER FALLDIN, FOREIGN MINISTER SODER AND LINDER WITH PARTICIPATION OF AMBASSADOR WACHTMEISTER (RECALLED FROM LEAVE) AND SENIOR MFA OFFICIALS (UNDOUBTEDLY INCLUDING THYBERG AND PERHAPS GROTH).

3. AFTER READING, DCM QUERIED GROTH AS TO MEANING OF THIRD PARAGRAPH OF NON-PAPER. GROTH SAID LANGUAGE WAS UNFORTUNATE BUT IT HAD ALREADY BEEN DRAFTED BY THE MINISTERS WHEN HE BECAME INVOLVED AND HE WAS UNABLE TO CHANGE IT. DCM ASKED IF IT WAS MEANT TO APPLY TO B3LA AIRCRAFT WITH POSSIBLE GE 404 ENGINE COMPONENT ONLY OR HAD BROADER MEANING. BOTH SWEDISH OFFICIALS REPLIED THAT WHILE FUTURE OF THE B3LA AND US ENGINE WERE INCLUDED, POINT WAS MORE GENERAL AND INCLUDED QUESTION OF FUTURE PROCUREMENT IF AIRCARFT INDUSTRY WOULD CEASE TO EXIST AND PROBABLE INABILITY OF GOS TO SELL LATTER ALTERNATIVE TO SWEDISH ELECTORATE.

4. SWEDISH OFFICIALS WERE FRIENDLY AND COURTEOUS. THEY ENDED WITH HOPE THAT EMBASSY WOULD SUPPORT REQUEST FOR CABINET LEVEL MEETING WITH SECRETARY.
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5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT TIME MUST SOMEHOW BE FOUND FOR MEETING WITH LINDER GIVEN STRENGTH OF SWEDISH DESIRE FOR HEARING WITH SECRETARY AND THE INTENSIVE INVOLVEMENT OF HIGHEST LEVELS OF SWEDISH GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE PRIME MINISTER. THIS IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO EXISTING USG POSITION. IMPORTANCE OF HEARING TO US-SWEDISH RELATIONS IS, OF COURSE, PROFOUND. END COMMENT

6. TEXT OF NON-PAPER FOLLOWS:

"THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY TO THE MESSAGE OF 6 JULY OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CANNOT APPROVE THE SWEDISH REQUEST FOR US AUTHORIZATION TO EXPORT TO AND CO-PRODUCE IN INDIA CERTAIN EQUIPMENT OF US ORIGIN IN THE VIGGEN AIRCRAFT.

"THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS FAR REACHING CONSEQUENCES AND TOUCHES ON VITAL SWEDISH INTERESTS.

"MOREOVER, THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT IS SOON ABOUT TO MAKE IMPORTANT DECISIONS CONCERNING THE SWEDISH AIR FORCE.

"THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO PRESENT ITS CASE ON CABINET LEVEL IN WASHINGTON. UNFORTUNATELY IT HAS NOT SO FAR BEEN POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE SUCH A CONTACT.

"GIVEN THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT REITERATES ITS REQUEST OF JULY 6 FOR DR. STAFFAN BURENSTAM LINDER, MINISTER OF TRADE, DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE QUESTIONS AND MANDATED TO REPRESENT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT IN THIS MATTER, TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SECRETARY OF
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STATE, MR. CYRUS VANCE."
KENNEDY-MINOTT

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, TOSEC, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ARMS PRODUCTION, JOINT VENTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE176946
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:DROBINSON
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780287-0868
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780763/aaaacaxo.tel
Line Count: 140
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6a41da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2017324
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDISH NON-PAPER ON US REACTIONS TO EXPORT AND COPRODUCTION OF AIRCRAFTS IN INDIA
TAGS: MASS, SW, IN, US
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a41da75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014